City of Commerce

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, July 17, 2018 - 5:00 PM

CONCURRENT ADJOURNED MEETINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COMMERCE, JOINT POWERS FINANCING AUTHORITY AND THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE SUCCESSOR AGENCY TO THE COMMERCE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

5:00 P.M. CLOSED SESSION

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Argumedo called meeting to order at 5:03 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

ROLL CALL

Present: 5 - Mayor Argumedo
Councilmember Mendoza
Mayor Pro Tem Soria
Councilmember Altamirano
Councilmember Rebollo

PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

There were no individuals wishing to address the City Council/Successor Agency on any items on the Closed Session agenda.

RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION

City Council/Successor Agency recessed to Closed Session at 5:04 p.m.

1. Pursuant to Government Code §54957.6 the City Council will confer with its labor negotiator, Edgar Cisneros, with respect to labor negotiations pertaining to:

A. The Memoranda of Understanding between the City and the City of Commerce Employees Association on behalf of the part -time employees.

B. The Memoranda of Understanding between the City and the City of Commerce Employees Association on behalf of the mid-management and non-management full-time employees.

2. Conference with Legal Counsel Pursuant to Government Code Sections 54956.9(d)(2) and 54956.9(e)(3) Regarding Anticipated/Potential Litigation - One (1) Matter

3. Pursuant to Government Code §54956.8, the Successor Agency will confer with its real property negotiator, Edgar Cisneros, with respect to real estate negotiations concerning

proposed price and other terms relating to the properties located at 5476 Jillson St (6335-019-023), 5530 Jillson St (6335-019-042), 2500 S Eastern Ave (6335-024-046), 6335-024-038, 6335-024-039, 6335-024-048, 6335-024-042, 6335-024-043, 6335-024-044, 6335-024-045, 5600 Jillson St (6335-023-049), 6335-023-053, 6335-023-054, 5611 E Washington (6335-023-048), 5571 E Washington (6335-024-056) and 5555 E. Washington, Commerce, CA 90040

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

City Council/Successor Agency reconvened to Open Session at 6:32 p.m.

ORAL CLOSED SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT

Assistant City Attorney Copado reported on Closes Session items:

Item #3 was heard first. Staff provided a briefing to the Successor Agency; there was a consensus among the Successor Agency; Further direction was provided to staff. No final action was taken on this item.

Item #2 and item #1- Staff provided an update to the City Council; direction was provided to staff and no final action was taken on this item.

6:00 P.M. - CITY COUNCIL MEETING

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Argumedo called meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: 5 - Mayor Argumedo
Councilmember Mendoza
Mayor Pro Tem Soria
Councilmember Altamirano
Councilmember Rebollo

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Library Director Sarmiento led the Pledge of Allegiance

INVOCATION

Mayor Argumedo offered the invocation

APPEARANCES AND PRESENTATIONS

1. Certificate Honoring the 2017 and 2018 Girl Scouts for Earning the Silver Award

Mayor and Councilmembers issued Certificates honoring the 2017 and 2018 Girl Scouts for Earning the Silver Award and recognized entire Girl Scout Group for

their contributions to the community.

2. Commendation Honoring Rodrigo Gallegos for his Many Years of Dedicated Service to the City of Commerce

This item was moved to a later date.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Tommy McLeland complaint about the noise level of the library and air conditioning being too cold. Ms. McLeland also asked that the City Council deals with homeless issues and help those in desperate need.

Carlos Grajeda, Terry Westmore, Evelyn Diaz, and Charles Springer spoke on behalf of the City of Commerce Association. Mayor Argumedo spoke about Council responsibility to balance the budget and provide programs and services for the community, and continue those programs for future generation, which would require fiscal accountability.

Councilmember Altamirano moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Soria, to adopt . The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 5 - Mayor Argumedo, Councilmember Mendoza, Mayor Pro Tem Soria, Councilmember Altamirano, and Councilmember Rebollo

CONSENT CALENDAR

Councilmember Altamirano moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Soria, to approve the Consent Calendar. The motion carried by the following vote:

3. Approval of Warrant Register Nos. 24A and 24B

4. Fund Trade Agreement for the Exchange of Proposition A Funds With the City of Lancaster

5. List of Street Rehabilitation Projects for FY 18/19

6. Authorization to Submit Two Projects for the Next Active Transportation Grant Cycle 4

7. Authorize Staff to Procure Automated External Defibrillator Equipment from FC Safety, Inc.

PUBLIC HEARING

8. Confirmation of 2017-2018 Weed Abatement Charges

Director of Administrative Services and City Clerk Shumway provided an overview of the staff report. Mayor Argumedo opened Public Hearing. There were no individuals wishing to address the City Council. Mayor Argumedo closed Public Hearing.

Mayor Pro Tem Soria moved, seconded by Councilmember Rebollo, to confirm the 2017-2018 Weed Abatement Charges as recommended by the Los Angeles County Agricultural Commission. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 5 - Mayor Argumedo, Councilmember Mendoza, Mayor Pro Tem Soria, Councilmember Altamirano, and Councilmember Rebollo

SCHEDULED MATTERS

9. Committee and Commission Appointments

Mayor Argumedo appointed Johncito Peraza to Planning Commission
There was a consensus among the City Council to appoint Mary Ann Griego-Tally as an ex-officio member of the Measure AA Advisory Committee.
Mayor Argumedo appointed Yoli Acosta to Traffic Commission.

10. Presentation on Commerce Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan

Public Works and Development Services Director Babaki provided an overview of the staff report. Carlos Velasquez, KOA Consulting, provided a presentation regarding bike routes plan in the City and Safe Routes to School project. Discussion took place on how to connect bike path to riverbank and other areas in the City. Mr. Velasquez stated that this is included in the plan. Councilmember Mendoza recommended taking into account upcoming projects before installing any bike path or connectivity since Gold Line project is going to be coming to the City and also coordinate with City's pavement plan in order to eliminate duplication. Further discussion took place on how to interconnect bike path of several neighborhoods, and how this projects is going to be funded, and implementation. Mayor Argumedo recommended looking into possibility of providing bike racks for residents in order to get their bicycles to bike paths.

11. Fitzgerald Avenue - Rosini Community Survey Results

Public Works and Development Services Director Babaki provided an overview of the staff report.

Discussion took place regarding results and based on that majority of residents want something to be done to alleviate the problem. Councilmember Rebollo cautioned about some of the actions because when Community Service Officers were stationed in the area to control the traffic as a result of that it created a problem in Village neighborhood. Councilmember Altamirano recommended implementation of the drive permit parking. Councilmember Soria spoke about resident responsibility to clean the drive in, and eliminating inoperable vehicles. It was a consensus among the City Council to direct staff to analyze this issue more and try to come up with something to address the problem.

12. Residential Refuse and Recycling Rate Increase and Agreement Term Extension

Deputy Director of Public Works Operations Nila provided an overview of the staff report.
Discussion took place, and there was a consensus among the City Council to authorize a 5% increase, but look into four year contract versus five year contract in order to align it with the commercial refuse and recycling agreement terms.

Councilmember Mendoza moved, seconded by Councilmember Altamirano, to adopt resolution authorizing a rate increase of 5% and extend contract for four more years a term extension ending June 30, 2023. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 5 - Mayor Argumedo, Councilmember Mendoza, Mayor Pro Tem Soria, Councilmember Altamirano, and Councilmember Rebollo

13. Consideration for All-Way STOP at Ferguson Drive & Gaspar

Public Works and Development Services Director Babaki provided an overview of the staff report. Discussion took place about safety hazards posed on that intersection. There was a consensus among the City Council that the stop sign is warranted to ensure the safety of stakeholders. Further discussion ensued.

Councilmember Rebollo moved, seconded by Councilmember Mendoza, to authorize the installation of all-way STOP at the intersection of Ferguson Drive & Gaspar Avenue. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 5 - Mayor Argumedo, Councilmember Mendoza, Mayor Pro Tem Soria, Councilmember Altamirano, and Councilmember Rebollo

14. Installation of Artwork at 5770 South Eastern Avenue

Deputy Director of Development Services Marquez provided an overview of the staff report. Discussion ensued. Deputy Director Marquez stated that cost of the

artwork is $15,000 and the developer pays it in full. Discussion took place about the location of the artwork. Deputy Director Marquez also stated that if the developer does not choose the artwork, funds go to a special fund that the City Council could use for future artwork.

Councilmember Rebollo moved, seconded by Councilmember Altamirano, to adopt Resolution approving the installation of artwork at 5770 South Eastern Avenue pursuant to the City's Art in Public Places program. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 5 - Mayor Argumedo, Councilmember Mendoza, Mayor Pro Tem Soria, Councilmember Altamirano, and Councilmember Rebollo

15. Presentation on Proposition 64, the Medicinal and Adult-Use Cannabis Regulation and Safety Act

Mayor Argumedo announced a break at 8:12 pm. Councilmember and the Mayor returned from the break at Returned at 8:26 pm.

Assistant City Attorney Copado provided an overview of the staff report. Discussion took place on including the community, having educational component to this topic, and make a decision once all stakeholders input received. Councilmember Rebollo recommended that if the City decides to allow cannabis in the City, money generated should be allocated towards specific City programs like youth, seniors, veterans, etc.

Further discussion took place regarding outreach, town hall meetings, stream outreach live through Facebook.
Councilmember Soria suggested that they could look into option three as recommended by the Assistant City Attorney Copado while the outreach is conducted.

Mayor Pro Tem Soria moved, seconded by Councilmember Rebollo, to adopt Go ahead of recommendation #3 and include the community outreach and include empirical evidence of works and what does not work. . The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 5 - Mayor Argumedo, Councilmember Mendoza, Mayor Pro Tem Soria, Councilmember Altamirano, and Councilmember Rebollo

16. Update on City's Pension Status

Finance Director Domic provided an overview of the staff report. Discussion took place regarding increasing cost for pension fund and increasing costs. It was a consensus among the City Council that this is a serious problem that the City will

be facing and that the Council has a responsibility to allocate money wisely, protect the services. It was stated that the City wants to provide competitive salaries and benefits to the employees, but the Council should be responsible for the entire City and protect existing services for the residents.

CITY COUNCIL/SUCCESSOR AGENCY REPORTS

Councilmember Rebollo spoke about possibly establishing social media etiquette for elected officials and warned about posting information on social media that could offensive for certain groups of people.

Councilmember Mendoza reported that he attended Fourth of July celebration, ICA Summer Seminar, and meeting in Bristow Park area. Councilmember Mendoza spoke with the Mayor of Downey and got some ideas from him that the City of Commerce could implement.

Mayor Pro Tem Soria reported that he had a great family time at Camp Commerce.

Mayor Argumedo complimented staff on a great job done for Fourth of July celebration and reported that he attended the ICA Summer Seminar.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned in memory of Carmen Contreras at 10:03 p.m.